



NEWS RELEASE
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
South Central Region Headquarters
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FOR RELEASE: July 20, 2009

CONTACT: Mark Cain, Wastewater Engineer, (608) 275-3252

SUBJECT: WDNR Environmental Assessment for Larson Acres, Inc Available for Public Review

Fitchburg, Wis. – Larson Acres, Inc operates a 2,668 animal (2,920 animal units) dairy at 18218 W Highway 59 in Evansville (Main Facility) and a Heifer Facility, located at 17162 West County Road B, Brodhead, Wisconsin. Larson Acres proposes to construct new buildings, add 2,607 animals (2,660 animal units) and install a wastewater treatment system at the Main Facility. This activity requires Department review and approval of the proposed plans and specifications as well as review and approval of an application to re-issue an existing Wisconsin Pollution Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit. These actions require the Department to conduct a Type II Environmental Assessment under the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act (WEPA).

The Department will host an informational meeting on August 4, 2009, 5:00-8:00 pm at the Evansville High School Auditorium, 640 S. Fifth Street, Evansville, WI 53536. An open house will be held from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm, an informal presentation will occur at 6:00 pm and public comments will be taken thereafter.

The proposed Department action is not anticipated to result in significant adverse environmental effects. The Department has made a preliminary determination that an environmental impact statement will not be required for this action. This recommendation does **not** represent approval from other DNR sections, which may also require a review of the project.

Copies of the environmental assessment that led to the DNR's preliminary determination can be obtained from Mark Cain, Animal Waste Engineer, Animal Waste Program, (608) 275-3252,

Mark.Cain@wisconsin.gov and/or Eric Heggelund, Wastewater Specialist, (608) 275-3283,

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Public comments, either written or oral, on the environmental assessment are welcome and must be submitted to Mark Cain no later than 4:30 p.m. August 10, 2009. Comments may be submitted either verbally or in written form.